ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Pea River Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

BETHLEHEM CHURCH, COFFEE COUNTY, ALA.,

SEPTEMBER 25TH, 26TH AND 27TH, 1880.

OFFICERS:

M. BROOKS,.....Moderator.
A. J. WISE, JR.....Clerk.
A. WINDHAM,.....Treasurer.

Southern Star Print, Ozark, Ala.

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MINUTES

The Pea River Baptist Association met with Bethlehem Church, Coffee county Ala., in its *Fourth Annual Session*, on the 25th day of Sept. 1880.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. W. Bullard, at 11 o'clock A. M. from the 14th chapter 15th and 16th verses of John.

After one and half hours for refreshments, the body was called to order by Elder M. Brooks the Moderator. Prayer by Elder W. J. McBryde.

By request, the letters from the several churches was read by Elder W. J. McBryde and Brother J. C. Moore, and Delegates names enrolled as follows:

New Providence—W. J. Spurlin, A. Windham and Joseph Donaldson.

Shiloh—M. Brooks, J. W. Brooks and A. J. Wise Jr.

Bethlehem—(Coffee county) S. F. Latimer, A. J. Brooks and J. F. Kindrick.

New Ebenezer—William Taylor, and James A. Taylor.

Hebron—J. J. Bradley, A. S. Head and J. Bradley.

Bethlehem—(Dale county) J. W. Bullard, J. M. Ellis and J. M. Tally.

Woodland Grove—E. Winslow, J. M. Rowe and W. H. Johnson.

Then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the election of M. Brooks Moderator, A. J. Wise Jr. Clerk, and A. Windham Treasurer.

Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats in the body.

Called for Potitionary letters. None received.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED TO REPORT DURING THE SESSION.

On Divine Service—J. A. Taylor, J. M. Ellis, together with the pastor and delegates of Bethlehem church.

On Missions—John Bradley, A. Windham, J. W. Brooks, and J. W. Bullard.

On Finance—S. F. Latimer, A. J. Brooks, and Jasper Bradley.

On Documents—John Bradley, William Taylor, and Joseph Donaldson.

On Nominations—A. J. Wiso Jr. J. M. Tally and J. F. Kindrick.

On Deceased Ministers—J. W. Brooks, John Bradley and J. W. Bullard.

Called for correspondence. Non received.

Returned correspondence: To Salem Association—M. Brooks, and J. W. Brooks.

To Newton Association—J. W. Bullard, J. M. Ellis, and J. M. Tally.

To Zion Association———————

To Sandy Creek Association—J. W. Brooks, J. W. Bullard and W. H. Johnson.

The committee on preaching reports as follows: Saturday 8 o'clock P. M. E. M. Brooks. Sabbath 11 o'clock A. M. W. J. McBryde at the church, and at the same hour at the Methodist church, Elder P. M. Callaway.

On motion, adjourned until Monday morning 8½ o'clock.

SABBATH.

On Sabbath, 11 o'clock, Elder W. J. McBryde preached from Romans 8th chapter 1st verse; at the same hour, Elder P. M. Callaway from 2nd Kings 5th chapter 12th verse; at 3 o'clock P M Elder W. C. T. Mosley, from Revelations 6th chapter last verse; and Elder John Bradley, from Phillippians 3rd chapter 10th verse; at 8 o'clock, P. M. Elder P. M. Callaway from Hebrews 4th chapter 9th verse. The ministers preached able sermons from the texts.

Monday Morning, September 27, 1880.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Singing and prayer by Elder W. Allen.

Read the Decorum.

Renewed the call for Petitionary letters, also for correspondence.

Extended the invitation to visiting ministers and brethren, when Elder P, M. Callaway from Newton Association, and Elder W. C. T. Mosley from the Alabama Association responded.

Called roll and marked absentees, read and adopted the minutes of Saturday.

Report on missions read and adopted. See appendix "A."

The Association then agreed to raise a fund to support a missionary some portion of time during the ensuing Associational year by cash and pledges.

CHURCH PLEDGES.

New Providence	$5.00	paid
Hebron,	2.50	"
Shiloh,	5.00	"
Bethlehem, (Coffee)	5.00	"

INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES.

W. J. McBryde,	$2.00	paid
J. A. Taylor,	1.00	cash
S. Pettis,	1.00	paid

Report on Documents read and recommend the petition to hold the next session with New Ebenezer, on motion adopted. See appendix "B."

Report of the Executive Committee read and adopted. See appendix "C."

Report on Nominations read and adopted. See appendix "D."

Report on deceased ministers read and adopted. See appendix "E."

Report on Finance read and adopted. See appendix "F."

On motion, the collection of Sabbath was added to the minute fund—and the Clerk ordered to have 150 copies of minutes printed, and after paying for the same keep the balance for his services, and on motion the missionary fund on hand to be paid over to the Treasurer, to be held by him until ordered to be paid over to the executive committee.

Treasurer's Report read and adopted. See appendix "G."

On motion, the original Executive Committee be continued until next session.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to the members of Bethlehem Church, together with the kind citizens of the surrounding vicinity, for their hospitable entertainment during the session of this body.

Resolved, That the time of meeting of this body be changed to be on Saturday before the first Sabbath in November hereafter.

Minutes read and adopted. The Association then adjourned to meet with New Ebenezer church 6 miles west of Elba, on Saturday before the first Sabbath in November 1881.

MIDDLETON BROOKS, MODERATOR.

A. J. WISE, JR. *Clerk.*

APPENDIX "A."

We, your committee on Missions, beg leave to make the following report. We see and feel the great necessity for the spread of the gospel. We have great destitutions in our bounds and wickedness like an avalanche spreading all over our land, our sons and daughters are being captives by the wicked one at his will; something must be done; if we can't do much do what we can make sacrifice. Then let every minister and laymen make such and all the sacrifice he can for the spread of the gospel, that souls may be saved, and the name of Christ glorified.

Respectfully submitted, J. W. BULLARD, Ch'n.

APPENDIX "B"

Your committee on Documents offer the following report. We find nothing claiming the attention of this body, except a petition for the next session of this Association to be held at New Ebenezer Church.

Respectfully submitted, JOHN BRADLEY, Ch'n.

APPENDIX C."

We, your Executive Committee make the following report. Having no funds to operate upon, we have held no meeting.

Respectfully submitted, JOHN BRADLEY, Ch'n.

APPENDIX "D."

We, your committee on Nominations offer the following report: To preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session of this body Elder M. Brooks, his alternate, Jesse M. Rowe.

Respectfully submitted, A. J. WISE, Jr. Ch'n.

APPENDIX "E."

We, your committee on Deceased Ministers, beg leave to make the following report. Death has been in our midst and hath dropped his fatal shaft upon a servant in Israel. Another father is gone, a new made grave in our church yard marks his resting place.

Let silence reign for the time, let our temples of worship be draped in mourning. While we gaze upon his last resting place, the question arises—is this the beacon of mortal man? Ten thousand small still voices echoes from the many garss

grown mounds. This is the final beacon to which *all* mortal men are tending. Our pastor and moderator, Brother W. J. WHITE is no more—his was a life spent in the Masters cause.

And while we mourn his loss and feel that the church and community has sustained in his death a heavy loss, we feel assured that our loss is his eternal gain and that our Brother is reaping the reward of his labor. That rest that remaineth for the people of God.

Respectfully submitted, J. W. BROOKS, Ch'n.

APPENDIX "F."

We, your committee on Finance offer the following report. Collected for minutes $18.15. Collected for support of Pea River Association, $8.85. For pledges $11.00.

All of which has been turned over to the Treasurer and his receipt taken for the same.

Respectfully submitted, S. F. LATIMER, Ch'n.

APPENDIX "G."

The Treasurer offers the following as his report.

For minutes,	$18.15
Collected on Sabbath,	8.85
" " pledges,	11,00
Total	$38.00

Repectfully submitted, A. WINDHAM, Treasurer.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M. Brooks,	Victoria Ala.	Jesse M. Rowe,	Elba Ala.
J. W. Bullard,	Daleville Ala.	John Bradly,	Victoria Ala.

VISITING MINISTERS.

P. M. Callaway,	Newton Ala.
W. C. T. Mosley,	Greenville Ala.
E. M. Brooks,	Brundidge Ala.
W. Allen,	Bullock Ala.
W. J. McBryde,	Spring Hill Ala.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. We believe in one only truly and living GOD—the FATHER, SON, and the HOLY SPIRIT, and these three are one.

2d. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3d. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

4th. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5th. We believe in man's incapacity to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by any exertion of his own free will.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the IMPUTED righteousness of Jesus Christ.

7th. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

8th. We believe that saints shall persevere in grace, and NEVER FINALLY FALL AWAY.

9th. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ; that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances; and that immersion is only baptism.

10th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment.

11th. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

12th. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, except one who has been regularly called and ordained to the work by the imposition of the hands of a presbytery.

RULES OF DECORUM.

RULE 1. The Moderator shall fill the chair and preserve order in the Association, which shall be opened and closed by prayer.

RULE 2. The privileges and authority of the Moderator shall be respected by all the members; he shall decide all questions of order and propriety.

RULE 3. The Moderator shall vote in no case, unless there is a tie in the Association, then he shall give the casting vote. He shall have the same privilege of speaking as other members, provided he shall appoint some member to fill the chair.

RULE 4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and keep the subject; and he shall not speak more than twice on the same subject without leave from the chair.

RULE 5. No member shall leave the body while on business, except by permission from the chair.

RULE 6. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for deliberation, the Moderator shall take the voice of the body by calling for the yeas and nays.

RULE 7. All motions in order must be disposed of by the body, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

RULE 8. A list of the names of the delegates shall be called and absentees marked.

RULE 9. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates, and keep a regular record of all the business of the Association.

RULE 10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected before the body rise.

RULE 11. This decorum may be altered, or amended, by two-thirds of this body.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	Rec'd by Exp....	Rec'd by Letter..	Restored	Dids'by Letter..	Excluded.....	Dead.....	Present Number.	Contributions....
Beth'lehem, (Dale county).....	14	4	3	1	0	0	38	1.50
Bethlehem, (Coffee ")..... ..	2	5	0	1	1	0	49	2,35
New Providence,.....	0	4	0	1	0	0	20	2 00
Hebron,.....	3	1	0	0	0	0	21	1.50
New Ebenezer,.....	1	0	0	0	0	2	22	4.00
Shiloh,.....	0	0	0	2	0	0	29	3.25
Woodland Grove.....	2	0	0	3	0	0	14	3.55
Total	22	14	3	8	1	2	193	$18.15

ABSENT DELEGATES.—J. M. Rowe, W. J. Spurlin and E. Winslow.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	P. O.	CLERKS	P. O.	M't'g Sab.
Bethlehem,.. ...	J. W. Bullard,	Daleville,	J. M. Tally...	Daleville,	3rd
Bethlehem,.....	J. Bradley,....	Victoria..	S. F. Latimer	Victoria..	1st
New Providence,	J. M. Rowe,...	Elba, ..	A. Windham,	Elba.....	3rd
Hebron,..... .	J. Bradley,...,.	Victoria.	A. S. Head,..	Hend'rs'n	....
New Ebenezer,...	W. Allen,....	Bullock...	J. A. Taylor,	Elba	4th
Shiloh, ...	M. Brooks,.....	Victoria.	A J Wise, Jr	Elba.....	2nd
Woodland Grove	J. W. Bullard,	Daleville,	W H Johnson	Elba.....	2nd